

REMARKS

New dependent Claims 27 and 28 are added, containing elements previously in Claim 1. Several other claims are revised for proper antecedent basis in view of the amendments to Claim 1. The present amendment cancels Claims 24-27 without prejudice. Claims 1-17, 28, and 29 remain in this application, with no claim previously allowed.

Claims 1-11 are rejected as unpatentable over *Bouve et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,682,525) in view of newly-cited *Rennard et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,615,131) and further in view of *Hancock et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,202,023). (That rejection identifies *Rennard* as U.S. Patent No. "6,650,902". However, the number of the *Rennard* patent newly cited in the Office Action is 6,615,131 and the undersigned assumes the Examiner has applied *Rennard* '131 in this rejection.) The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Accordingly to that rejection, *Bouve* teaches the limitations of the claimed method, except for "information regarding the different geographical location is pre-configured by the user at a prior time...while the user is in the different geographical location" and "generating a search query for items of interest only within a radial distance of the geographical location identified by the user". *Rennard* and *Hancock* are cited as teaching that those respective omissions would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill. However, the Applicants respectfully submit that combining selected teachings from those references, in the manner suggested by the Examiner, would not have been obvious in foresight, before knowing the contributions of the present Applicants.

Bouve discloses a system with which a user, from a remote communication location, can locate information representing items of interest such as businesses, stores,

and the like. *Hancock* discloses formulating a database query for finding certain kinds of shopping establishments within a certain radius of the user's present or specified future location (column 27, lines 38-45 and column 29, lines 10-14).

Rennard, in contrast with *Bouve* and *Hancock*, provides a navigational system allowing a user to obtain step-by-step instructions for traveling between two or more pre-planned locations. That system may provide an optimal route (column 7, lines 32-35 and column 13, lines 45-54) and supplies text or audible navigation information to the user enroute to a particular destination (column 16, lines 25-36). A significant aspect of *Rennard's* teaching concerns voice recognition of complex addresses made up of so-called street grammars, including multiple components such as street names and numbers, cities and states (column 14, lines 14-43). As one way to allow a user to input complex information with minimal user input, *Rennard* mentions a method for bookmarking a user's current location (column 21, lines 38-49). Although the user obviously does not need navigational instructions to his or her *current* location, *Rennard* discloses delivering that information to a "community of users" so that other members of the "community" may use that location as a destination input to those members' own navigation systems (column 22, lines 9-18 and 45-47).

Given these differences in the intended purpose and disclosed operation of *Bouve* and *Hancock* on the one hand, and of *Rennard* on the other, the Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill would not have considered it obvious to combine those references, or at least to combine them in a manner suggested by the Examiner to produce a system as described and claimed herein. *Bouve* and the secondary reference *Hancock* are each concerned with identifying a user's location and then identifying, from a database, names

and locations of establishments corresponding to the user's stated interest. The person of ordinary skill would see no need in providing either *Bouve* or *Hancock* with a different geographical location pre-configured by the user at a prior time, as the user (in those references) is concerned with finding establishments of interest relative to the user's present location. *Rennard*, on the other hand, teaches a navigation system allowing a user to bookmark a current location so that others, in a community of users, can proceed to that bookmarked location. In effect, *Rennard* allows a user to enter his/her location into a kind of mini-database and then makes that database information available to others in the community of users. That teaching by *Rennard*, however useful, is not what the present Applicants do or claim.

Moreover, it is not seen how one of ordinary skill would conjoin *Rennard's* teaching with those of *Bouve* and *Hancock*. The teachings of the latter two references have no need for allowing a user, in effect, to enter his own location into the database, as that user wants to identify specified establishments near the fixed (*Bouve*) or variable (*Hancock*) coordinates of his present location. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill would find no need or motivation for combining *Rennard's* teachings with those of *Bouve* or *Hancock*. For that reason, Claims 1-11 are patentable notwithstanding the applied references.

Claims 12-17 stand rejected as unpatentable over *Bouve* in view of *Rennard*. *Rennard* is cited for the reasons discussed above. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, also for the reasons set forth above in the present remarks.

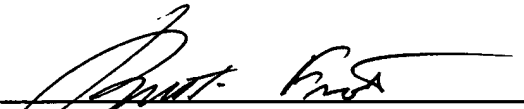
New Claims 28 and 29 depend from Claim 1. Claim 28 recites that the step of detecting (i.e., concerning the search request from the user) as orally creating a specified name using a mobile communicator and associating that name with the different geographical region while the user is in that different region. Claim 29 defines the “geographical proximity” of Claim 1 as a radial distance relative to the geographical location identified by the user. Claims 28 and 29 thus restore limitation formerly in parent Claim 1, and those two dependent claims are allowable over the applied art for the reasons given above.

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action identified above. The Applicants submit that all claims remaining in this application are patentable and solicit a notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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